Dear Tagues all, 11/19/77

I am not coming down Monday night as I'd planned because of developments in one of my FOIA suits. I have to be here for work on it, a large amount of work that has to be done rapidly.

I knew this was possible and had told Ms. Keeler of the possibility.

However, because the odds appeared to be against these needs I had planned to go and for the first time my wife had planned to go with me. In fact it we had not agree to dog sit for friends who wanted to go away from Thanksgiving we had planned to stay in Dallas over the holiday so I could do more work there.

(My wife has flown only once. She had no trouble flying but the changes in pressure did something to her ears that had her sick and uncomfortable for about three months. Since then planes have been pressuring= ed and all I am told is that this should eliminate pressure problems. But without a real need to fly and with a painful recollection of how uncomfortable she was for so long, Lil, who has no fear of flying, just hasn't.)

I had no interest in the Enquirer stunt and would not have gone there for that even if I see no special harm in it. If I got no vibes I'd have said I get no vibes. Period. However, it would have made other work possible and they had agreed to pay me by the day for the time I was away. I could have used that money to pay the FBI for more xeroxes. And I could have spent some time in further interviews. More likely I might have interested them in other stories which would have enabled still morepayments to the FBI.

This is a hasty note at the beginning of the day to save a phone call, even one I'd have reversed. I know Ms. Keeler will tell you but I wanted to, too.

The reasons for the change are dual. One is a logical development we had not anticiaped so soon, the other is my determination to confront the FBI on its stonewalling. We had a meeting with two of them and seven people from the DJ a week ago yesterday in an effort to avoid having to go to trial. This gave the FBI a week in which to make a demonstration of good faith, by compliance. They did not. The DJ lawyers in effect threw up their hands and said they could not work anything out, that we'd have to leave that up to the judge. We meet with the judge at 11 Monday. I'll have to do some preparation for that. Then there is little doubt, absent some major change on the part of the FBI, that she'd schedule a trial. This will require much work of me. I'll be out major if not our only witness.

One of the legal units of the DJ is also turning a large batch of records over next week, voluntarily. We won on that one. My lawyer has to be away for twn days. So I have to go over them for him before he returns.

Otherwise I'd be there. Sorry, but thanks for the invite. Maybe it will happen yet. I'll let you know. I mean in the near future. Meanwhile, hope you all have a good holiday seaons.

Best to you all.